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ABSTRACT

Higher education opportunities are available to qualified ex-G.I.'s who want to continue their educations. This pamphlet explains the various types of programs offered through the government and the procedures one must follow to enter the programs. Information about financial assistance, types of educational programs, and the paperwork involved are included. (HS)

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getting it together

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A NO-SWEAT GUIDE TO A BETTER DEAL FOR EX-G.I.'S

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getting it all together

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hey, what's happening

My name is Bob.

Just like you I did some time in the service. I was in Nam—and the less said about *that*, the better.

If you're like me, you've found out that they don't give parades or medals to dudes who come back from *this* war.

They couldn't care less, man.

So I watched a lot of TV, went to a ton of movies . . . and hung out with the guys.

When I tried to get a job, a lot of people treated me like I was a dope addict or a criminal or something.

Man, did I get turned off!

Then I met this dude.

. . . and he says, "G.I.?"

I say, "Yeah."

Then he says, "How's it going?"

I say, "Get lost!"

Then he says, "Well I'm an ex-G.I. too—but I got over feeling sorry for myself and decided that the only way to make it back home is the way I did it in Nam—keep moving, have a walking partner, use whatever they give you, and have more smarts than the other guy."

So then this dude lays a check on me that he just got that has U.S. TREASURY written on it. It's for 243 bucks and he says he can cash it anywhere.

He gets one every month.

He's got a wife and two kids and he's going to college —studying sociology or something like that. And he's got two jobs part-time—he works for the city health department part-time and he cops some extra change by getting ex-G.I.'s like me to enroll under the new G.I.

Bill and learn something.

Then he tells me how to get my thing together . . . *all* together . . . with special loans, government programs—stuff I never even heard of. I can tell you how it works.

But of course if you want to keep on being hassled, don't turn the page.

Throw this book away . . . but throw it in the direction of another ex-G.I. who maybe doesn't want to watch a lot of dumb daytime TV.

like it is

Congress can be O.K. They rap a lot, of course . . . but they also pass laws. They passed one recently that jazzed up the old G.I. Bill so Viet Vets can get cash to go to school.

But you've gotta follow some rules and go through a little red tape before they send you the cash—otherwise some sharpy would probably steal it all and there wouldn't be any left for us Vets who need it.

I'll make it easy for you . . . so you won't have to do all the stuff I did. I went trooping around to V.A. offices, and schools, and bureaucrats, and collecting pamphlets, and regulations, and filled out forms, and called guys, and sent away for stuff, and stood in line 'til I thought I was back in the Army.

You don't have to do all that, because any cat smart enough to get *me* to help him can probably get other dudes to do some of the legwork for him. And one of them is listed on the back cover of this book. Call him . . . go see him. He's done it all and knows how to help.

O.K. Ready on the firing line . . . and if you can't hit the target with all this ammunition, you've had too much R and R.

here's how

The first thing to realize is that you are not alone. About a million G.I.'s a year are getting out of the service, and a big chunk of them are going to be in bad shape—no job, not enough education, no one anxious to help, and all the rest.

The main thing is that there are dudes just like you, with all the doubts, all the questions, and all the same feelings . . . who have done it . . . who were turned off . . . but who decided to go to school, or back to school. These are guys who are in college now, studying things that will place them in jobs with salaries that are a lot higher than what an E-3 is into.

But education isn't cheap. Uncle Sam will help, through the new G.I. Bill. But even *that* money won't do it all. Even if you get the top benefit by going to school or college full-time, you'll still need extra bread. And you get that with a part-time job.

Also, there are all kinds of scholarships (free money) and non-interest loans that may be available—from both Government and private sources. These vary from place to place—but more about these later.

First things first—like a high school diploma.

step 1

A HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA

If you already have a high school diploma or have passed the G.E.D. test, skip this and go to Step 2. If not . . . read on, man.

If you dropped out of high school after two or three years, you can probably pass a test called the G.E.D. (for General Education Development). The G.E.D. diploma is just the same as having graduated from high school—no one treats you any differently.

Contact your local school board—they give the test or can tell you who does. Ask the school board about test dates, where the test is given, what it costs, and when you'll know the results. Get an application from them. You can also get into some counseling to find out if you need to do any preparation studies before the test. If you do, the G.I. Bill will pay for it without charging it against what will be coming to you for college or higher education.

It's a good idea to take these prep courses, because the score you get on the G.E.D. is important. If you just barely pass it, some colleges may hold it against you. In any event, find out what your chances are of getting a decent score.

The G.E.D. test is actually a series of five tests based on various reading materials. The test subjects are:

- English Grammar
- Social Studies—History, Economics, etc.
- Physical Sciences—Chemistry, Biology, Physics, etc.
- Literature
- Math

The tests are of the multiple-choice type (usually four or five choices) and take about an hour and a half

each, longer if you need it.

The test is a general one, aimed at finding out your level of reading and understanding ability. It doesn't get into a lot of picky questions like "Who wrote Moby Dick?" or "Who was Ulysses Grant's Vice-President?" There are several paperback books on the market which can help you prepare for the test. Check out your local library.

Prepare to shoot a full day taking the tests. Some areas may let you stretch it out over 2 days. The cost varies, but it is usually in the $5 to $10 range.

There are age and residency requirements, so be sure to check. Generally, you can take the test if your high school class graduated the previous year.

For you Spanish-speaking Vets, there is also a Spanish edition of the G.E.D. test—much like the regular version except it has a sixth test designed to rate your level of English. Usually, only the first five tests count as part of your score.

For more information on special G.E.D. tests, write the Director, Commission on Accreditation, American Council on Education, One Dupont Circle, Washington, D. C. 20036.

If you only had one year or so of high school, passing the G.E.D. test may be rough. You might find that it is better to go back to high school and finish. Here again, the G.I. Bill will pay you while you're in school and it won't affect what you can get under the G.I. Bill when you go on to college or other higher education.

But *ask* someone who has done this.

If you took the G.E.D. test while you were in the service and don't have your scores, you can get them by writing to:

Director, U.S. Armed Forces Institute
Madison, Wisconsin 53713

Give them your name, rank, serial number and when

and where you took the test (if you remember). They will mail your scores to whatever school or college wants them and will send you a copy. Most schools will not accept hand-carried scores, so the mail deal is best. There is no charge for this.

Now suppose you take the test and don't pass, or fail part of it. No big thing. You can take it again or take that part which you failed. If you didn't do particularly well, it's a good idea to take special prep courses before you take the test again. Requirements on this vary from place to place.

O.K., now suppose you have a high school diploma or have passed the G.E.D. test and you would like to get credit for stuff you have learned since then (like courses in the service or other education you might have absorbed either formally or informally) . . .

There is a special test for you. If you do well on this test you can get credit for up to 30 semester hours, or the entire freshman year of college. In exceptional cases it is possible to receive up to 60 hours credit. This may vary from college to college, so it's best to check.

The test is called the College Level Examination Program or CLEP. It, too, is a battery of five tests covering:

- English Composition
- the Humanities
- Math
- Natural Sciences
- Social Sciences—History

Tests are of the multiple-choice type.

The fee for the CLEP tests is $15 and the tests are given at 60 test centers across the country. Check a local college to find out where and when the tests are given near you.

Next step is deciding which way to go.

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step 2

DECIDING

You probably have a good idea of the kinds of jobs that require a high school education. Try comparing these jobs and their salaries to jobs and salaries which can be had with a college education—or technical education of a more specialized nature. The difference is not only thousands of dollars more that could be earned every year, but it is the chance for advancement to even better jobs.

Don't let anyone tell you that a junior college or a vocational or technical school is no good. In many cases, these institutions may be right up your alley—in terms of costs, convenience and time. The public ones are good, and they are the cheapest (tuition between $100 and $500 per year)—and they offer a wide range of technical courses geared to a job schedule.

If you're thinking of aiming at such careers or jobs as lab technician, accounting, auto mechanic, medical assistant, drafting or any of the skilled trades, a technical school or junior college may be right on the button. Check the current hourly rates and salaries of these jobs and you'll see what I mean. Most are set up to handle the part-time or night student, and you will emerge with a ready skill that is in demand. And if you go to a two-year college and then decide you want to transfer to a four-year college—no sweat. Can do . . . if you take the right courses.

O.K., now think up all the reasons for not going to college—go ahead, I've heard them all, but you may come up with a new one—

- I couldn't get in with a sledgehammer
- I can't afford it
- It's too long and too hard

- I don't know what I want to do
- I need a job and money *now*
- It's not meant for guys like me
- It's too much of a hassle

The only one that's even remotely true is the last one. It *is* a hassle—but it's a lot less of a hassle than working as a stock clerk 'til you go on Social Security . . . and having your kids start off the way you did—get drafted, kicked around, get a grubby job, want stuff they can't afford and all the rest.

No good, man. College leads to a better way . . . and a better life . . . and a wife who'll be happier . . . and kids with a better chance. It all depends on you and the decision you make *now*.

But, don't take *my* word . . . Rap with other Vets who've done it and are doing it.

There are all kinds of colleges and other schools in the post-high school category. And there are probably at least five or ten of each within easy reach of where you live.

Uncle Sam (and everyone who pays taxes) has spent billions building colleges and schools all over the place and there's any number that are—

- just right for you
- anxious to have you
- offering the courses you need
- offering some form of financial aid
- ready to help you find a part-time job

All this, of course, takes some looking into, but if you rap first with guys who have done it you'll save on phone calls and shoe leather.

If you don't know exactly what you want, seek some help in finding out what technical specialties are most in demand in your area. As a Vet, you are entitled to

V.A. career counseling—however, there may be a wait for this at your local V.A. office. You can also check with placement offices in schools and employment services for help. This won't cost you anything and it will help you decide. A daily check of help-wanted ads in your local paper should guide you as to who wants what the most.

There are several special Federally-funded programs which provide training in selected fields. Two of these are the LEEP (for Law Enforcement Education Program) program and MEDIHC (for Military Experience Directed Into Health Careers). The LEEP program offers grants of up to $300 per semester and loans of up to $1800 per academic year—but to be eligible you must first be an employee of a police department, court or correction agency. Check this out with your state law enforcement agency or local college.

The MEDIHC program is basically for those who had a health-related MOS in the service and want to pursue a health career in civilian life. The program varies from state to state, but if you were a corpsman or medic in the service you should investigate this with your state health department.

Now to figure the costs.

step 3

FIGURING THE COSTS

As I said before, man, going to college isn't cheap. Even though the G.I. Bill and other sources will help, you're going to have to watch and plan for every penny. Otherwise you won't make it.

Learn to look for every conceivable cost and plan on the high side. Also, remember that money has a way of being delayed coming in . . . Also that it has a way of being demanded in a hurry by guys you owe it to. Timing is crucial.

Costs are obviously going to vary from place to place and from school to school. But you should make your decisions with an eye to what the costs *will be*. For instance, if you pick a school a long way off, check bus or transit costs round trip. Also, if you have a car, make sure there is plenty of free parking—and make sure you won't have to be putting a lot of dough into your car to keep it running.

Public schools, community colleges, technical schools, and state universities and land-grant colleges are the cheapest. Head for them. A typical state university may cost about $20 a course hour per semester, or $240 for the full-time 12-hour schedule. Also, figure on between $50 and $75 for books and materials.

Remember that you will have to pay all these costs. As you'll see in the next chapter, the G.I. Bill will help, but it pays you a flat sum each month—out of which you'll have to meet all your expenses. So watch out for schools and courses that advertise "covered by or approved for the G.I. Bill." That doesn't mean that the G.I. Bill will automatically cover their tuition.

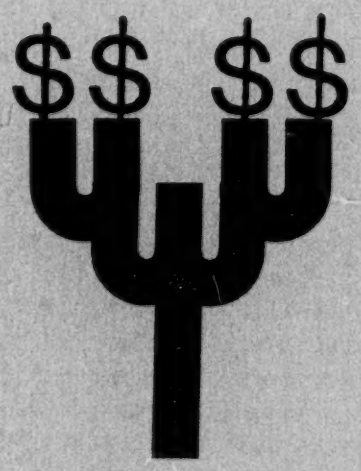
Another thing—some schools have application fees, so don't waste money applying to a lot of schools. Do some advance work to find out which ones are right

for you and which ones are likely to accept you.

Now add in the registration fee and any other special costs like lab fees. Figure your own personal costs for meals and housing, etc., and add in any transportation costs.

When you get a total figure on what it is going to cost you per semester, you can start to plan on where it's going to come from.

That's called shaking the money tree.



step 4

SHAKING THE MONEY TREE

Assuming you now know about what it is going to cost you to go to school or college, the big question is "How do the bills get paid?"

As a returning G.I., you are eligible for a number of goodies you will need to take advantage of—especially if you decide on getting more education. However, government programs tend to be a little complicated, so you'll have to do some asking and reading and running around. We're still a long way off from the day when they pass out dollar bills on street corners.

1. G.I. BILL BENEFITS

First, the G.I. Bill. Assuming you're going to go on to college full-time, you will be eligible for benefits (usually 12 class hours a week).

First, though, you are going to have to fit the following mold:

(1) Did you serve at least 181 days on active duty? Good.

(2) Were you released under conditions other than dishonorable? No sweat.

(3) Did you get out after January 31, 1955? Right on.

Now, if you've met the three requirements above, what do you get? Well, the money benefits are basically there to help you make it through college. Whichever of the monthly payments below you qualify for can come to you for up to 36 months (if you served 18 months on active duty). In other words, they figure a nine-month school year, and, with four years of college being the deal, that's 36 months (I did well in math). If you served less than 18 months, benefits work out

differently, so check this out. The V.A. can help you with all the details.

But there's another important goodie. You can get the *same* amount of money per month if you have to go back and finish high school or if you need some special preparation courses to get into college—and it won't be subtracted from the full amount you'll get for the 36 months in college.

HERE'S HOW THE MONEY TREE SHAKES OUT:

You're Single **so you get**	You're Married **so you get**	You're Married and have 1 kid **so you get**	You're Married and have 2 kids **so you get**	For each additional kid **you get**
$175/month	$205/month	$230/month	$243/month	$13
For the full 36 months full-time:				
$6300	$7380	$8280	$8748	$468

O.K., suppose you have or can get a good full-time job and you want to go to college half-time or three-quarter-time. You get paid amounts reduced accordingly (see below), but they'll still pay you for as long as it takes you to finish college (unless, of course, you spend three years as a freshman or something like that).

HERE'S HOW THE PART-TIME DEAL WORKS:

You're Single **so you get**	You're Married **so you get**	You're Married and have 1 kid **so you get**	You're Married and have 2 kids **so you get**	For each additional kid **you get**
For Half-Time in College (6 Hours a Week)				
$81/month	$100/month	$114/month	$121/month	$7/month
For Three-Quarter-Time in College (9 Hours a Week)				
$128/month	$152/month	$177/month	$187/month	$10/month

Now, as they say on the cereal boxtops, this offer isn't good forever. It lasts only eight years after the date you get out (or if you got out before 1966, it lasts until June 1, 1974). So don't spend six weeks making up your mind. And for gosh sakes, don't spend two years filling out all the forms and doing the run-around. Vets in your area can help you do all this and save you a lot of time and grief. Call one of them now! His name, number and address is on the back cover of this book.

One other thing to note: Suppose the college says you need special tutoring while you're enrolled—you know, to make it through on time. Well you can get up to $50 a month extra (for a maximum of nine months) to pay for it. You may not need this, but it's nice to know about it.

Remember that G.I. Bill benefits are tax free—so are some of the other benefits listed below.

2. OTHER SCHOLARSHIPS AND LOANS

You must realize that the G.I. Bill will only pay you a specified amount, and out of that *you* must pay your school or college tuition and fees. The G.I. Bill doesn't pay these *for* you. However, there are many scholarships (free money) available from both state and local public agencies and colleges as well as private sources. The American Legion has put out a handy-dandy list of all these in a booklet called "Need a Lift?" It's updated every year, and it's filled with tips and good ideas on how to make ends meet and how to take advantage of programs set up just to help you. Get a copy from your local American Legion Post or write: The American Legion Educational and Scholarship Program, Americanism Division, Indianapolis, Indiana 46206.

Finally, there's one major problem with the G.I. Bill. After you apply for benefits and are enrolled in college, it could take a month or two (or more) for that first check to reach you. Some areas have funds to loan

Vets, at no interest, amounts up to the monthly G.I. Bill benefits until that first check comes in. Check this out. Also, many states and schools have loans available for Vets to do the same thing.

3. THE GUARANTEED STUDENT LOAN PROGRAM

Speaking of loans, there's one particular government goodie you should check out. It's called the "Guaranteed Student Loan Program," and it lets local banks and some credit unions, colleges and even insurance companies loan students up to $1500 a year for college and personal expenses.

Now it may take some digging to find a bank that will make one of these loans, but it's worth it. Here's the deal:

If you live alone or even if you live with your family and your total adjusted yearly income is less than $15,000, you are eligible. While you are in school or college (at least half-time) you can borrow up to $1500 a year. You don't have to pay it back until the year after you finish or graduate. They don't charge any interest until a year after you stop being a student (then it's only 7% applied to the declining balance). You have 10 years to pay it back (four payments each year).

Check the banks in your area to see about this, or ask at the school or college you want to go to. If your state has a higher education agency (most have), ask them. If one bank says no, don't give up—try another . . . keep going until you get a good answer. Better yet, ask a Vet who has played this game.

4. UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION

First, you *can* receive unemployment compensation. Now this obviously varies from state to state, but generally the deal is this: for unemployment benefit purposes, getting out of the service is the same as being laid off from work.

However, you must be "available for full-time work"

to receive benefits. This means that in applying for school, you would be thinking about taking courses at night or on weekends. Merely seeking part-time work probably isn't good enough for most state employment offices. But check anyway.

See the veteran coordinator in your local state employment office and ask him. Actual benefits vary, but generally you can probably get about half of your monthly service pay (which is figured by adding in an amount for fringe benefits—medical, etc.).

5. FOOD STAMPS

Second, you may wish to check into whether you can get food stamps. Understand that you do *not* have to be on welfare to receive food stamps. The key is to fit their income limits. It works this way:

If your total income falls below certain limits (according to the number of people in your household) then you may be eligible.

For example, if your income is $170 a month (assuming you are single and live alone . . . a one-person household) then you can pay in $26 and receive $32 worth of food stamps a month. This is scaled according to income, so that if your monthly income is $100 you would pay only $18 for $32 worth of food stamps. If your monthly income is $55 you would pay $8 for $32 worth of food stamps. Monthly income below $20 means free food stamps ($32 worth).

For a four-person household the income limit is $360 a month—that means you would pay $99 for $108 worth of food stamps per month. If the income for that four-person household was only $110 a month, then $25 would be paid for the $108 worth of food stamps. Monthly income below $30 means free food stamps ($108 worth).

All this varies according to the size of the household and the amount of monthly income. The important point

for veterans is that G.I. Bill money spent for tuition costs, books and other school and college fees *does not* count as income.

Check your local welfare office to see how to work this out. Don't miss an opportunity for anything free—or even at a discount! The welfare office can review your application and get you a card with which you can buy the food stamps—often in only a few days.

6. SOCIAL SECURITY STUDENT BENEFITS

There is a special deal under the Social Security Act that could add a lot of cash to you as a student. Under the so-called "student benefits" you can get as much as $210 a month if you qualify. Here's the deal:

(a) You must be a full-time student (usually 12 hours a week), unmarried and below age 22; also,

(b) One of your parents must be covered by Social Security and must be either retired or disabled (as defined by the Social Security Administration) or deceased.

O.K., now what cash can you get? If your parents are retired or disabled, you get one-half of what they are eligible for. That means in addition to what they are getting—your benefit doesn't get subtracted from theirs. This could mean between $35 and $140 a month for you depending on your parent's salary level, the period of time he or she was covered by Social Security and on the size of the family. If your parent who was covered by Social Security is no longer living, then you can get three-quarters of the benefits he or she would be eligible for. This could mean between $45 and $210 a month for you. Any G.I. Bill benefits would not affect this.

You do *not* have to be either living with your parents or receiving support from them.

There *is* an income limitation—if your annual income (*not* your family's) is over $1,680, your benefits will be

less. But there is one important thing to note—if you are eligible and have been a full-time student prior to the time you apply, you can receive retroactive benefits (up to one year). In other words, if you have been a full-time student for eight months and are eligible for, say, $100 a month Social Security benefits, you would get a check for $800 plus the continuing $100 a month as long as you are a full-time student (or up to age 22).

Check all this out at your local Social Security office. It may sound a little complicated, but it could mean a lot of cash.

Now, chances are even after you get your G.I. Bill or other benefits, or any loans you need (the non-interest kind are the only ones to consider—AVOID HIGH-INTEREST LOANS IF YOU CAN), or get any scholarships you can . . . you'll *still* need extra cash.

step 5

THE PART-TIME JOB

Unless you have a winning sweepstakes ticket, a rich uncle or a sure-fire betting system, you are going to need more cash than the G.I. Bill will give you—assuming you're making the smart decision to go to college.

The best way of getting the dough you need is by getting one or more part-time jobs. This isn't easy—particularly if the job market is tight in your area. But there are some things you should know.

First, many employers will give preference to ex-G.I.'s for jobs. Your local Veterans Administration office may be able to tell you about such companies. There may be a Jobs for Veterans office in your area, and this is their bag. Ask and check. Also, visit your local State Employment Service office and talk to the Veterans Employment Representative. The National Alliance for Businessmen is also undertaking a special Jobs for Veterans drive.

Second, under the new Emergency Employment Act, the new public service jobs can be split—one job given to two Vets so they can go to school or college full-time as well. Also, in many areas employers other than state and local governments are picking up this idea. Check with the office listed on the back of this pamphlet.

Third, many colleges offer part-time jobs to students, and G.I.'s often get first crack at them. This could affect your choice of a school, so look into it.

Remember also that if you left a job to go into the the service, you have the right (under Federal law) to get it back—cr to get a similar job from the same employer.

Your local group of Vets who have been through

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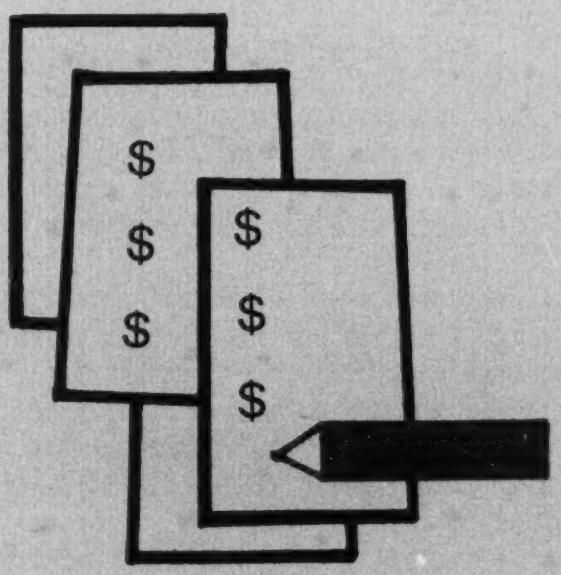
all this is the best source of information. They have tramped around to different companies and job sources —they know who to see, who will give a break to Vets, who is a waste of time, who pays the most and who offers a training program leading to a more skilled job.

Talk to these Vets and let them give you tips on how to get a good part-time job. They can also tell you how to go about getting help from the various government agencies—the Veterans Administration, the State Employment Service, etc. They know who to see and what they can offer. In short, they can save you a lot of time and grief.

Now, the paperwork.



step 6

PAPERWORK

Having been in the Armed Services you know that nothing moves without paper. It's no different in civilian life. Don't fight it.

First off, go collect all the documents you need and go use one of Mr. Xerox's wonderful machines. There are lots of shops around where they'll make copies of anything (except dollar bills) for about 5¢ a page.

Make at least five copies of the following:

1. DD Form 214—your separation papers
2. Your marriage certificate or license
3. Birth certificate of any and all children
4. Your high school diploma or G.E.D. equivalent

Another thing that's good to have, if *you* think it will help, is a brief list of any job experience or training you have had. Include the date you had the job and the name of your supervisor (if he was a good guy and thought *you* were).

Now that's just the beginning. There will be a pile of forms before you're through—BUT the main thing is that there is help available for this. Your local group of veterans who have slogged through all of this are ready to help you fill out the forms you need. They can also help you get them processed and tell you how long you'll have to wait, etc.

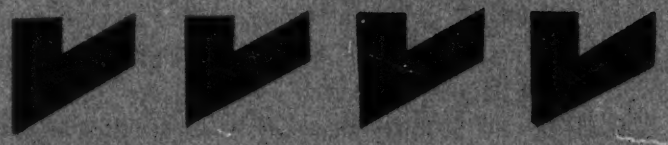
They can also tell you what sort of stuff these different forms will want . . . what you should be prepared to provide, what you can gloss over, how to disguise something you don't want to play up, what's important and what isn't. Be sure and get the lowdown on all this before you go fill out the wrong form, send it to the wrong guy, or go through a lot of Mickey Mouse that isn't necessary.

There will be a form to apply for G.I. Bill benefits;

a form to apply for the G.E.D. or CLEP test; forms to apply for school and college admissions; forms to apply for scholarships and loans; forms to apply for jobs . . . and all the rest.

It's a pain, no doubt about it. But, like everything, there's an easy way and that is to get help from someone who has filled them all out before. So don't be put off by all the paper . . . it can be a ticket to success for you.

Now to check what you've got.



step 7

THE CHECKLIST

O.K., now you know the deal. Run down this checklist and make sure you cover all points. This is so you'll know exactly what questions to ask when you see the local vets in your area who are set up to help you.

- ☐ **Copies of needed papers—DD 214, marriage license, children's birth certificates, high school diploma, etc.**
- ☐ **The G.E.D. test if you are a high school dropout; preparation courses if needed.**
- ☐ **The CLEP test if you want credit for any post-high school training or education you may have had.**
- ☐ **G.I. Bill benefits.**
- ☐ **Unemployment compensation, Social Security benefits, food stamps, or other government aid.**
- ☐ **School and colleges in your area. Courses of study and veteran application procedures.**
- ☐ **Scholarships and/or any non-interest loans available.**
- ☐ **Your budget—all the costs of living while you go to school or college.**
- ☐ **Part-time jobs. Public Service jobs. Companies giving preferential treatment to veterans.**
- ☐ **Government agencies that can help—Veterans Administration, Employment Service, City Hall, Board of Education.**
- ☐ **Forms and applications—for all the goodies and deals mentioned.**

One final word: Timing is very important. Find out when college applications must be made; when the tests you need are given; how long applications take to be approved; when you will be able to receive benefits; when loans must be paid off; how long your eligi-

bility for various benefits will continue (see chart on next page); and all the rest.

You must plan all these things carefully. But don't do it alone, and above all don't do it without knowing all the details and ins and outs. You can avoid the delays and mistakes that others make by simply getting help from G.I.'s who have put it all together and are doing what you want to do.

Above all, don't decide to do nothing—just because it looks or sounds complicated. Don't be afraid to ask questions.

Call the dude whose name and number is on the back cover. He is a guy just like you and wants to help.

I know. I'm one of them.

Good luck and right on.

P.S.—Some of the programs and benefits mentioned will change from time to time and will vary from place to place—it pays to check these things out with the office listed on the back of this pamphlet.

VETERANS' BENEFITS TIMETABLE

10 days.....To advise Selective Service of address.

30 days.....To register with Selective Service, if not registered prior to entry on active duty.

90 days.....To apply to former employer for reemployment.

120 days.....To retain insurance protection without examination by converting Servicemen's Group Life Insurance to an individual policy.

1 year.....From date of latest VA decision granting service connection to obtain G.I. Life Insurance because of service-connected disability.

1 year.....To file for VA dental treatment. No time limit for trauma- or combat-caused conditions or for former prisoners of war.

1 year.....To receive unemployment compensation.

3 years.....To apply for correction of military records to correct an error or injustice.

8 years.....To complete G.I. Bill education. Course must be started in time to finish in eight years.

9 years.....To complete Vocational Rehabilitation, except certain cases of serious disability or delay in establishing eligibility.

15 years.....To apply for review of character of discharge.

No Limit.....To obtain G.I. Loan.

No Limit.....To file compensation claim for injury or disease.

No Limit.....To file pension claim, non-service connected.

No Limit.....To file for Federal Civil Service Veterans Preference.

No Limit.....To obtain VA hospital care.

No Limit.....To obtain special assistance in finding employment or job training program.

No Limit.....To convert Term Insurance.

No Limit.....To apply for Exemplary Rehabilitation Certificate—but applicant must demonstrate a good record for at least three consecutive years from any date after release from active duty.

VETERANS EDUCATION AN

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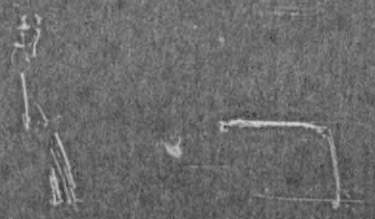

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